



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Satoru Maeda, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/996,019  
For : INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD AND  
APPARATUS AND RECORDING MEDIUM FOR  
CONTROLLING AND SIMPLIFYING A SIGN-UP  
OPERATION OF AN APPARATUS OVER A  
NETWORK(AS AMENDED)  
Filed : November 28, 2001  
Examiner : Nguyen, Thanh T.  
Art Unit : 2144  
Confirmation No. : 2691

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New York, NY 10151

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**AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

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Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 14, 2006, Applicants

hereby submit a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and petition for a one-month

extension of time, extending the period for response to and including October 16, 2006 (October 14, 2006 being a Saturday). Applicants enclose herewith a check in the amount of \$120.00 as payment of the extension-of-time fee and a check in the amount of \$790.00 as payment of the RCE fee. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.